

WELCOME TO VISIT HOST TRAINING BY THE RELATIVE CARE TEAM!

We will begin shortly

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Relative Care Team (RCT)

VISIT HOST

Partnering with families to support connection



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Today's Agenda

Relative Care Team

What is Visit Hosting and Who is Visit Host?

Overview of Relative Finding and Engagement Tools

Identifying and Supporting Visit Hosts

Engaging families through the process

Foster Parent Panel

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Relative Care Team

- **Team Mission:** New Mexico will have increased value of family relationships and maintain family and sibling connections to increase placement stability and improve well-being outcomes of children and families.
- **Team Charge/Objectives:**
 - Implement an improved relative care program (practice through use of tools, improving relationships and partnerships with relatives, improving relative experiences, provide training to new workers and current workers)
 - Improve and identify supports (resources and training) for relative caregivers to improve experience
 - Create buy-in throughout the agency and stakeholders including relative parents
 - Distinguish between relative & sibling; sibling work as possibly a separate goal (ensure that sibling connections are distinguished).

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What is Visit Hosting and Who is Visit Host?



A process in which families and kin hosts and supervise visitation to make it more organic and comfortable for the parents and children



Someone who the agency and family agree could oversee a visit.



A person who is privy to the information about the case, the parents, and the children

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Identifying and Supporting a Visit Host

- Utilize family finding and engagement tools
 - *Circle of Safety and Support*
 - *Seneca search*
 - *Genogram*
 - *Been verified*
- Relatives or kin that could not offer placement support
- Run records checks in FACTS, NM courts, NM Sex Offender Website, and Vinelink
- Discuss expectations with the visit host (i.e., reliability for weekly visits, rules to enforce during visits, documentation of visits)
- Obtained a signed release of information to discuss the child's specific needs and safety concerns in the case.
- Visit host completes on-line training- how to report abuse and neglect.
<https://swrtc.hmsu.edu/resources/elearning/educators/>
- Set up meeting to discuss safety concerns, children's needs, family strengths and interests, and visit schedule
- Prior to first visit, PPW provides visit host and foster parents with contact information, SCI phone number, and office on-call phone number, in case of an emergency.

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Circle of Safety and Support

- It can be used as a safety planning tool
- Used to help families to identify people for the child's safety and support network.
 - Which is a group of responsible adults (family, friends and professionals) who:
 - care about the child and family
 - willing to meet with CYFD
 - who understand the concerns about harm and danger
 - willing to do something that supports the family and helps keep the child safe
- It helps with having conversations with family members about:
 - why a safety and support network is necessary
 - about the role of the network and the process of assessing who would be appropriate people for the safety and support

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Seneca Search

- It is a search engine used to search for relatives.
- It provides information such as, addresses, phone numbers, names of friends or neighbors.
- It helps us to have conversations about individuals in their lives or from their past

SENECA
FAMILY OF AGENCIES | UNCONDITIONAL CARE
[Family Connectedness Home >](#)

Family Finding Search Request
This form uses a secure connection to the server.

Subject Name
First Last

Please try to provide an exact spelling. Include a middle name or initial if known. For women, provide married and maiden name if known.

SSN

Date of birth or approximate age

If you don't know the date of birth or approximate age, please at least provide an age range, i.e. 20-30, 30-40, 40-50, etc.

Previous Addresses

Any previous addresses or previous city/state.

Additional Search information

Other names used. Associates or relatives names. If you know the subject has lived in more than one city, include both. Remember, the more information provided, the better your chances.

Case Identifier

Include any casefile# or other identifier that you would like included on the report for tracking purposes.

Your contact information:

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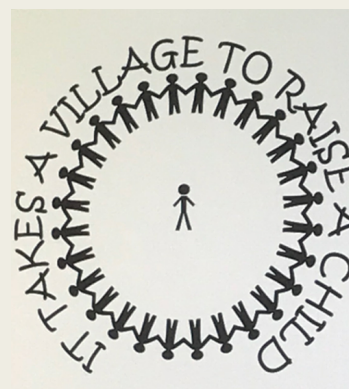
Engagement and Connections

- Research shows that children participating in more frequent and/or regular time with parents exhibit more of the positive outcomes below when compared to peers who participate in fewer or less regular visits:
 - *Stronger attachments to their parents*
 - *Improved child well-being*
 - *Fewer behavioral problems, including both internalizing and externalizing problems*
 - *Lower levels of depression*
 - *Better adjustment*
- Connects and develops relationships with families, children, and youth with relatives outside of placement

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Engaging Families

- Remember, its not just about placement, its about family connections
- Its about building or rebuilding relationship and connections
- We are explaining the purpose is to help the family grow & strengthen as a whole
- Trying to humanize the experience (it is uncomfortable to have CYFD monitor visits)
- Raising children is hard and everyone needs help
- If relatives cannot be a visit host we discuss other options to keep them involved



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Relative and Foster Parent Panel



- Name
- Information about being a foster parent
- How did you become a Visit Host?
- Tell us about the most difficult part of being a visit host.
- How did you overcome the struggles?
- How did the family overcome that struggle
- Discuss success that occurred because of visit host
- Did you help guide other relatives in becoming a visit host?
- What support did you receive?
- What suggestions do you have for workers to support future visit hosts?

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QUESTIONS?

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